



CITY OF TOLLESON

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**TOLLESON CITY COUNCIL MEETING ACTION MINUTES
TOLLESON CIVIC CENTER
9055 WEST VAN BUREN STREET, TOLLESON, AZ 85353
ZOOM WEBINAR ID: 840 6967 9194
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026
6:00 PM**

Doors open to Council Chambers at 5:45 PM for public seating. The public may be asked to temporarily relocate if an executive session occurs. The public will be invited back into Council Chambers when the Council returns from executive session.

Members of the public may also participate in the meeting via [Zoom Webinar](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84069679194) (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84069679194>) with a computer or cell phone.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Davis called the Tolleson City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

B. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was delivered by City Attorney Pierce, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Chavira.

C. ROLL CALL

City Council: Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis, Council Member Christine Chavira, Council Member Clorinda Erives (participated remotely until 6:20 PM), Council Member Adolfo Gámez, Council Member Linda Laborin, and Council Member Cruzita Mendoza.

Not Present: Mayor Juan Rodriguez

Department Directors: City Manager Reyes Medrano Jr., Deputy City Manager/Chief Government Affairs Officer Pilar Sinawi, Deputy City Manager/Employee Resources Director Wendy Jackson, Chief Financial Officer Kevin Artz, Chief of Social Impact George Good, City Clerk Crystal Zamora, Development Services Director Jason Earp, Fire Chief Michael Young, Library Director Mandy Carrico, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Rudy Mendoza, and Utilities Director Jamie McCracken.

City Representative: City Attorney Justin Pierce



D. FINAL CALL TO SUBMIT SPEAKER REQUESTS

All citizens and interested parties wishing to speak before the Council regarding non-agenda items or during a public hearing shall fully complete a Speaker Request Form and submit the form(s) to the City Clerk prior to the meeting being convened. Citizens must complete one form for each item they want to address. Speaker Request Forms are located at the entrance of the Council Chambers. For Zoom participants, click the chat button, and enter your name and the item you would like to address. Submissions should be made no later than the Mayor announcing the “Final Call to Submit Speaker Requests”. All speakers will be limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise noted by the Mayor. Speakers are not required to disclose their identities or personal information. You may also submit an online speaker request form at <https://www.tolleson.az.gov/speakerrequest> at least one hour prior to the meeting.

E. CALL TO THE PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

This is the time for the public to comment on non-agenda items. Members of the Council may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01.H, action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to (1) responding to criticism; (2) directing staff to review the matter; or (3) asking that a matter be put on a future agenda.

F. SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND PROCLAMATIONS – FOR DISCUSSION

1. Sister Cities Update – George Good, Chief of Social Impact
2. Introduction of New Employees:
Field Operations Department – Jesus Garcia Guerrero, Skilled Trades Technician Mechanic
Utilities Department – Vincent Tallabas, Utilities Operator
Employee Promotions:
Library Department – Brianna Gonzalez-Aguirre, promoted from part-time Library Aide to full-time Library Aide
Kimberly Sandoval, promoted from part-time Library Aide to full-time Library Assistant
3. Proclamation declaring July 2026 as Disability Pride Month in the City of Tolleson, recognizing the contributions and achievements of individuals with disabilities, promoting accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunity, and reaffirming the City's commitment to a welcoming community for all. – Wendy Jackson, Deputy City Manager

Vice Mayor Davis proclaimed July 2026 as Disability Pride Month in the City of Tolleson.

G. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS

H. CONSENT AGENDA – ACTION ITEMS

Items on the Consent Agenda are of a routine nature and are intended to be acted upon in one motion. Council Members may pull items from Consent if they would like them considered separately.

1. Approve Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2026. (City Clerk Department)
2. Approve Claims and Bills Report for the period of June 17, 2026 to July 7, 2026. (Finance Department)
3. Approve the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control Liquor License Application No. 397970, Series 4 – Wholesaler, submitted by Jeffrey Craig Miller for RBG Spirits and Wine of Arizona, located at 320 S. 91st Avenue, Tolleson, Arizona 85353. This non-transferable liquor license authorizes a wholesaler to warehouse, sell, and distribute all types of spirituous liquor, including beer, wine, and distilled spirits, to Arizona-licensed retailers. (City Clerk Department) Public hearing will be opened for public comment, if any.
4. Approve the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control Liquor License Application No. 401792, Series 12 – Restaurant, submitted by Sergio Escamilla for Pony's Miches, located at 9897 W. McDowell Road, Suites C-300 and C-310, Tolleson, Arizona 85353. This non-transferable, on-sale retail liquor license authorizes the holder to sell and serve all types of spirituous liquor for consumption on the licensed premises of a restaurant that derives at least 40% of its gross revenue from the sale of food. (City Clerk Department) Public hearing will be opened for public comment, if any.
5. Approve the First Amendment to the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the City of Tolleson and Forward Tilt LLC for the purchase of statewide furniture, products, and related services, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Amendment. The Amendment increases the annual aggregate amount from \$100,000 to \$325,000 for the purchase of additional furniture, products, and related services. The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect through August 31, 2027. (Employee Resources, Library, Government & Public Affairs, and Information Technology Departments)
6. Adopt Resolution No. 2657 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving the revised Intergovernmental Agreement between and among the Arizona Fire & Medical Authority, the Cities of Avondale, Buckeye, El Mirage, Glendale, Goodyear, Peoria, Surprise, Tolleson, the Daisy Mountain Fire and Medical District, and the Sun City Fire District for the use of fire apparatus; superseding Resolution No. 2606; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement. (Fire Department)
7. Adopt Resolution No. 2659 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of the Tolleson Alliance

Against Substance Abuse (TAASA); authorizing the filing of the Articles of Amendment with the Arizona Corporation Commission; and authorizing all actions necessary to carry out the purpose of the Resolution. (Government & Public Affairs Department)

8. Approve the Fourth Amendment to the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the City of Tolleson and Shamrock Foods Company for food, fresh product, and related cafeteria supplies, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Amendment. The Amendment increases the annual aggregate amount from \$177,500 to \$213,000 for the purchase of additional products. The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect through June 30, 2027. (Human Services Department)
9. Adopt Resolution No. 2656 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving the Third Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Tolleson and the City of El Mirage, Arizona, for Police and Fire Dispatch Services and Administration, related to the annual cost adjustment and radio console upgrade, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Third Amendment. The Amendment establishes an annual fee of \$1,487,800 for Fiscal Year 2026–2027 and provides for a one-time payment of \$112,000 from the City of El Mirage for a radio console upgrade. (Police Department)
10. Approve the Third Amendment to the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the City of Tolleson and Capital Pump & Equipment, LLC, for maintenance, repair and operation (MRO) equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Amendment. The Amendment increases the annual aggregate amount from \$300,000 to \$350,000 for the purchase of additional equipment and services. The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect through April 30, 2027. (Utilities Department)

Council Member Gámez moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1. through 10.; the motion was seconded by Council Member Chavira. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Vice Mayor Davis – Aye

Council Member Chavira – Aye

Council Member Gámez – Aye

Council Member Laborin – Aye

Council Member Mendoza – Aye

I. REGULAR AGENDA – ACTION ITEMS

1. Adopt/Deny Resolution No. 2658 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving the Intergovernmental Agreement between City of Tolleson and Tolleson Elementary School District relating to School Resource Officer (SRO) services, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Agreement. The term of this Agreement shall be from the last date of execution until the end of the school year on May 27, 2027. If the District is awarded a School Safety Grant, it shall reimburse the City for the total cost of the officer assigned to the District, shared by the Arizona

Desert Elementary and Porfirio H. Gonzales Elementary school sites, in the amount of \$153,561.20 for a 10-month assignment in the 2027 Fiscal Year. (Police Department)

Council Member Gámez moved to adopt Resolution No. 2516; the motion was seconded by Council Member Laborin. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Vice Mayor Davis – Aye

Council Member Chavira – Aye

Council Member Gámez – Aye

Council Member Laborin – Aye

Council Member Mendoza – Aye

J. WORK STUDY AND PRESENTATIONS – FOR DISCUSSION

1. Finance Department Update – Kevin Artz, Chief Financial Officer

K. MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER’S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS – FOR DISCUSSION

1. Reminder: The City Council Meetings scheduled on Tuesday, July 28, 2026 and Tuesday, August 11, 2026 have been cancelled for summer recess.
2. A Special City Council Meeting will be held on Monday, August 10, 2026 at 4:30 PM to meet the Primary Election canvass deadline. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-642(A), the governing body holding an election shall meet and canvass the election not less than six days nor more than twenty days following the election.

L. CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Motion to go into executive session.

Council Member Gámez moved to convene into executive session at 6:44 PM; the motion was seconded by Council Member Mendoza. The motion carried 5 to 0.

Vice Mayor Davis – Aye

Council Member Chavira – Aye

Council Member Gámez – Aye

Council Member Laborin – Aye

Council Member Mendoza – Aye

2. Convene into an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(7) to discuss and consult with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the lease of City-owned property.

M. RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC MEETING

N. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 and A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Tolleson City Council and to the general public that the Council of the City of Tolleson will hold a meeting open to the public. Council Members of the City of Tolleson will attend by telephone/video conference call.

Note: The City Council of the City of Tolleson, by a duly passed motion, may vote in public session to adjourn to executive session on any agenda item in conformance with A.R.S. § 38-431.03 for legal advice from the City Attorney.

Arizona law prohibits any City resource, including staff time, equipment, and anything of value to influence an election. This prohibition applies to Call to the Public at the Council Meeting. You may discuss a City issue but do not “advocate” for a specific candidate or ballot measure. Additionally, soliciting petition signatures or campaign contributions or distributing campaign materials is prohibited on City property. The City appreciates your efforts to help the City comply with state law and avoid using taxpayer monies to influence an election.

Zoom’s live transcription feature can provide automatic captioning by clicking on the Closed Caption (CC) button during the meeting.

THE CITY OF TOLLESON ENDEAVORS TO MAKE ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES. With at least two business days advance notice, accommodations can be provided at this meeting for individuals with vision, hearing and/or speech disabilities, including a transcriber, large print, an interpreter, an assistive listening device, etc. Please call the City Clerk at (623) 936-7111, or TTY users may dial 711 for Arizona Relay Service (AZRS), to request an accommodation to participate in this public meeting. The City will try its best to accommodate any last minute requests.

LA CIUDAD DE TOLLESON SE ESFUERZA PARA HACER TODAS LAS REUNIONES PÚBLICAS ACCESIBLE PARA INDIVIDUOS CON DISCAPACIDADES. Con al menos dos días laborables de previo aviso, se pueden proporcionar adaptaciones en esta reunión para personas con discapacidades visuales, auditivas o del habla, incluido un transcriptor, letra grande, un intérprete, un dispositivo de asistencia auditiva, etc. Llame a la Secretaría Municipal al (623) 936-7111, o los usuarios de TTY pueden marcar 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Arizona (AZRS), para solicitar un alojamiento para participar en esta reunión pública. La Ciudad hará todo lo posible para satisfacer cualquier solicitud de último minuto.

City of Tolleson**Checks Recorded****Check Dates: June 17, 2026 to July 7, 2026****PAYMENTS OVER \$10,000**

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	CHECK NUMBER	CHECK DATE
FELIX CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	\$746,754.58	188063	7/7/2026
ASR CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC	\$165,635.75	188055	7/7/2026
AIRWAVE COMMUNICATIONS ENTERPRISE	\$71,724.49	188054	7/7/2026
LEA-ARCHITECTS LLC	\$67,465.43	188043	7/2/2026
WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL EQUIPMENT CO	\$48,965.77	188025	6/29/2026
PEORIA FORD	\$37,973.41	188008	6/29/2026
MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$35,577.64	188069	7/7/2026
EKC ENTERPRISES INC	\$34,056.90	188040	7/2/2026
WASTE CONNECTIONS OF ARIZONA	\$27,484.88	188023	6/29/2026
ARIZONA COMMERCIAL DIVING SERVICES INC	\$27,200.00	187939	6/24/2026
VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES LLC	\$15,128.80	188020	6/29/2026
ALEX AREVALO	\$15,000.00	187982	6/29/2026
THE PARTY PEOPLE OF ARIZONA	\$13,002.52	188096	7/7/2026
TOLLESON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIST.#17	\$12,650.00	188036	7/2/2026
ARIZONA BOUNCE AROUND INC	\$10,150.30	187938	6/24/2026

Post-Production File

City of Tolleson
City Council Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2026

Transcription Provided By:
eScribers, LLC

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Transcription is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not
be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.

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DAVIS: Good evening, everyone. Good evening, everyone. Are we ready? Are we ready?

CHAVIRA: Ready.

DAVIS: I'm Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis. Today is July 14th, and I would like to call the City Council meeting to order.

City Attorney, will you please provide the invocation?

And Council Member Chavira, will you please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance after that?

PIERCE: Our beloved Father who art in heaven, we come before thee once again with gratitude that we could be here in the circumstances that we're in. We're grateful for this wonderful city, for the leaders that provide direction and support for all of us who are here. We are grateful for the opportunity of self-governance and pray that thou would please bless this Council with wisdom and guidance from thee to make decisions that will be appropriate. And we pray for those, again, that keep us safe and that show up when we need help, many of whom are here tonight. We pray that they will be blessed for their service and kept safe and protected, as well that they might return home to their families safely. We pray for our country, we pray for our world, we pray for peace in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ALL: Amen.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

DAVIS: I just want to yell, "play ball" after that. It's just -- one of these days I'm going to. So roll call is next. Please let the record reflect that all Council is present with the exception of Mayor Rodriguez. And I do see that Councilwoman Clorinda Erives is online.

ERIVES: Thank you, Vice Mayor.

DAVIS: Call to submit speaker requests. Now is the final call to submit speaker requests to the City Clerk. All speakers will be limited to three minutes for comment only.

Actions taken as a result of public comment will be limited to one, responding to criticism; two, directing staff to review the matter; or three, asking that a matter be put

on a future agenda.

Madam Clerk, do we have any speaker requests?

ZAMORA: We do not, Vice Mayor.

DAVIS: Call to the public. It is now the call to the public.

City Clerk, do we have any submissions?

ZAMORA: We do not.

F, scheduled public appearances and proclamations. Number 1 is the Sister Cities update. At this time, we will call up Chief of Social Impact Good.

Sir, you have the floor.

GOOD: Good evening, Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Council and invited guests. I have the great privilege tonight of introducing some of our friends from our Sister City Program who have traveled here to be with us. We have a couple firefighters, which I'll introduce. Some speak English, some do not. But I want to make sure you guys get a chance to meet them. And we have -- first, we have Alex Chavez (ph.).

Alex, if you would stand, please, por favor.

And he has been on the Penasco Fire Department for 25 years. We also have Edgar Tapia (ph.), and he's been on the Department for 13 years. And so they're here with us. They're spending time at the Tolleson Fire Department for a few days. Tomorrow, they'll be over at the Arizona Fire Chiefs' Conference in Glendale. So it's part of the annual conference. So we tried to plan this visit around that and around our firefighters' availability also. And before I forget, I want to thank our firefighters who have really been helpful. There's a lot of them in the back of the room. And they've all been involved with them. But the ones who have been the lead on it, I know Eddie Meza. There's a Mr. Topete also. If you can raise your hand so they know who you guys are. Captain Meza was just promoted. So I think we're going to talk about him later tonight. So congratulations to him. But our entire department is involved in sharing and learning about strategies that they use in Penasco and sharing things and equipment that we do here. Also, through the graciousness of Chief Young, we have some equipment that we will be donating that they'll be taking back with them -- some

jaws of life, we call them -- two sets of those, along with a couple sets of air packs. So they'll be taking them back to Penasco to better serve their community down there. So possibly walking in would be the -- I keep looking back there. Possibly walking in would be the fire chief and the public safety director. They are close. They may not make it here on time, but possibly, they'll be here. So we'll see about that. Also, I want to recognize some other people that were involved with the program of the Sister Cities. And that is -- some of you may recognize Chief Davis back here and his lovely wife, Lori (ph.). And they are part of the Sister Cities Program, as they represent the Senior Center. And they've got those same hats that you guys have on right now. And for anyone that may not know, the Vice Mayor, along with Council Member Chavira and our mayor, have all been down to Rocky Point as part of this program. And then, I would be remiss if I didn't mention Martin Martinez (ph.). He is the economic development director for the City of Penasco. This is his third time being the -- under different, I was going to say presidents down there. They call them Presidente Municipal, but this is his third mayor that he's been the economic -- or the tourism director for the City of Penasco. So obviously, he's doing a lot of good things to where they continue to select him to be in that role.

So with that, we continue to work on different programing, and we've got some insurance things I think we've got worked out now. And so we'll see about sending some folks down there. None of this would have been made possible without your support and the support of the City Manager and the deputy city managers, as well as the participation and involvement of Chief Young and the Tolleson firefighters.

So with that, Chief, would you come up?

Chief has something to present to you also, and I'll mention what they are. These hats say "Tolleson Bomberos." If you want, maybe just pass them to the Council. And so these hats were --

CHAVIRA: Oh, I love those.

GOOD: -- originally developed at the Tolleson Fire Department, but since they said "bomberos," all the firefighters down in Penasco have these hats, and they're allowed to

wear these hats while they're on duty down in Puerto Penasco. So that's a pretty cool thing.

And Chief, is there anything you'd like to add?

GOOD: Yeah. I just want to -- just again, thank you guys for your support, not only for the Department but for this program. A lot of times in this profession, we get called on people's worst days. And it's hard to find those rewarding times. And that's where the, you know, being active in our community, being at the Senior Center, those are times that are very rewarding to us. And then, when it comes to the equipment, sometimes you don't know where this equipment goes. It gets broken. It gets sold. You just don't know. And so the fact that you guys are supportive of this program, allowing us to repurpose our equipment here to help our Sister City, are those rewarding times that we find, you know -- what's the word I'm looking for -- priceless. And so these hats are just a token of that thanks for supporting this program. And thank you to Chief Good for always being the lead on this, and to our city staff. But just thank you guys very much.

GOOD: And then, one last thing. The fire chief and the public safety director have just walked in. And so that is Armando Flores (ph.). They call it -- he's the Director de Proteccion Civil. But it's basically public safety director. And then Ramses Romo (ph.) to his right, and he is the Fire Chief for Penasco. And so they're just getting in, and they'll be here for a day or two also participating. And there's an event I think Jason may talk about later, possibly. And then, I'm sorry. I don't remember the name of the third gentleman.

(Spanish spoken).

He has a tile shop down in Penasco, and so I forgot his last name. Anyway. So again, it's an honor for me to be able to be participating in this program and to introduce to you all of our friends here and our existing friends from the Fire Department who are here for you guys every day, and our new friends here with Puerto Penasco. So if there's any questions, I'd be happy to take them. Otherwise, thank you all very much.

DAVIS: Member Gamez, do you have a question?

GAMEZ: Actually, no. I just want to -- I have a statement.

(Spanish spoken).

Thank you.

CHAVIRA: (Spanish spoken).

LABORIN: (Spanish spoken).

DAVIS: Well, I don't speak Spanish, so I'm just going to tell you, welcome to Tolleson. I'm glad to have you here. I've had the pleasure of visiting your home many times. And I'm excited that we are able to do the Sister Cities Program, but really do something with it; not just make it a proclamation, not just say something, but actually, you know, put those words into action.

So thank you, Chief, for all your hard work on this. Thank you for translating for me when we go to Mexico. I need to work on that, I think. But yeah.

Welcome to Tolleson. Welcome to the Valley. I hope you guys enjoy yourself. I wish that the weather was better. Can't help that. Sorry, guys. But you know, you'll get to go to the beach when you get home, so just think of that.

Go ahead.

GAMEZ: I think that -- I'm sorry. Maybe in Spanish.

(Spanish spoken).

As I explained it, years ago, we used to have a Sister Program with Sonora, Mexico. Okay? And what I'm saying is that we did it with the schools as well. Hands Across the Border, it was called. So we had the Sister Program and the Hands Across the Border. Our kids went over there, the elementary, and they were freaked out because they were walking through their school classrooms. They had maybe one or two desks. The floor was dirt. And our kids were like, what the? Well, you guys don't know how well you have it, how good you have it. These people come to school -- these kids come to school, and they're happy to be here, and they're proud of their school. But it can be better if we help each other out. And that was the whole focus on Hands Across the Border and Sister City Program. That was years ago. And now, we're back doing this with Rocky Point, Puerto Penasco. (Spanish spoken). What do you guys think about having that program resurrected? Not that you need more work, but you know, it's for

kids. Anyway, I just thought I'd say that. Gracias.

MEDRANO: Could we get a quick picture of all of our firefighters -- the Tolleson firefighters with our guests here tonight? That'd be great. Thank you.

DAVIS: Line up for a picture.

(Spanish spoken)

(PHOTO TAKEN)

DAVIS: All right. We're going to move on to item 2, introduction of new employees.

City Manager Medrano?

MEDRANO: Got it. We're good. Good evening, everyone. And again, welcome to our friends from the South. (Spanish spoken). We love having you here. I was able to travel to one of the first trips that I went with the Vice Mayor. And we tag-teamed our Spanish, and we made it through, sir, as you recall. It was fun. I look forward --

DAVIS: It was a little rough at times.

MEDRANO: It was a little -- yeah.

DAVIS: We got it done.

MEDRANO: All I did was eat the incredible food down there, so. I look forward to going again. First, this is by far my favorite thing to do during our meetings is to acknowledge the incredible people that we've managed to convince to choose Tolleson as their professional home, their public service home. So first, our new employees in field operations; Jesus Garcia Guerrero, skilled trades technician/mechanic. I don't know if he's here or on Zoom.

But if you're hearing me, Mr. Guerrero, congratulations and thank you for choosing Tolleson.

In the utilities department, Vincent Tallabas, utilities operator. Again, Mr. Tallabas, not only is that a cool name, it, like, synchronizes with Tolleson very well. The alliteration is undeniable. And congratulations and thank you for choosing Tolleson.

Onto our promotions in the library department; Brianna Gonzalez-Aguirre promoted to part-time library aide -- from part time library aide to full-time library aide.

Congratulations, Ms. Aguirre.

Kimberly Sandoval, promoted from part-time library aide to full-time library assistant.

And congratulations to you, Ms. Sandoval.

And this happened after the -- this next promotion happened after we put out the agenda. So I think this is a happy oversight -- or not an oversight, but issue of timing. But it brings me great honor. I've worked with this person for years now. I think we're pushing two decades knowing each other. And we share a name. His first name is my middle name. So please help me congratulate Eduardo "Eddie" Meza, who is promoted to the rank of -- oh, go tackle him. We'll do this again. We'll going to do this again. I didn't know he left. But yeah, I think we're all very happy. And if anyone's ever earned something, he has. And as you all know, he's a joy to work with. And having known him for so long and his family, Tolleson is lucky to have him. But yes, we'll bring him back, Chief, and do it right. He left. Sorry.

Thanks, Travis (ph.).

Thank you, sir. Those are all of our announcements.

DAVIS: Council, ready?

Just welcome to the new employees. Welcome home. Welcome to the Tolleson family. And congratulations to all of those who got promotions.

All right. At this time, I'm going to invite up James Stormzand -- I just butchered that name, I'm sure -- from Arizona Department of Economic Security. And he's going to talk to us a little bit about Child Support Awareness Month.

STORMZAND: Thank you, everybody, for having me here today. Again, I work for the Department of Economic Security Division of Child Support Services. We're here today because we are committed to advocating for children in whose safety and security remain top of our mind. And a child who receives emotional and financial support is more likely to feel safe and secure and is better equipped with courage to the very best future that they have possible. The Department of Economic Security Division of Child Support Services is robustly committed to putting Arizona's children first and to humbly serving Arizonians with excellence. DCSS strongly advocates for parenting responsibilities because parents and children benefit when both are engaged with their

children at every stage, regardless of marital status. So we'd like to proclaim August 2026 Child Support Awareness Month in partnership with the Governor's office and with you, the City of Tolleson. Thank you again for being here today. If there's any community members, family members, or people in your agencies who need help with child support, continue to encourage them to work with the Department of Economic Security Division of Child Support Services. We know with our work together, we can provide a better future for Arizonians' children.

DAVIS: All right. Let's get you up here. It's a great prop.

STORMZAND: Yeah.

(PHOTO TAKEN)

DAVIS: Well, a formal proclamation will be done at a later date for that particular proclamation. All right. Item 3 is a proclamation declaring July 2026 as Disability Pride Month in the City of Tolleson, recognizing the contributions and achievements of individuals with disabilities, promoting accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunity, and reaffirming the city's commitment to a welcoming community for all. Deputy City Manager Jackson is going to say a few words regarding this proclamation.

JACKSON: Yes. Good evening, Vice Mayor, members of Council.

Alice Wong, a disability justice and LGBTQ-plus advocate once said, "disabled people are experts in adaption, creativity, and resilience." As public servants, our responsibility is to become experts as well, not in adaption, but in creating accessible pathways that remove barriers and make employment, public services, and community participation possible for everyone. This year's theme, "The World Works Better with Us," reminds us that inclusion is more than providing accommodations. It is about creating opportunities for everyone to contribute their unique talents, perspectives, and experiences. When we focus on removing barriers instead of expecting people to overcome them, we build a stronger community and workplace. As we recognize Disability Pride Month, I encourage each one of us to ask one simple question; what barrier can I remove today so someone else has the opportunity to succeed? If each one of us can answer that question through our work, we won't just be recognizing

Disability Pride Month, we'll be putting its purpose into practice. Thank you so much.

DAVIS: I just want to share a quick story. So earlier today, actually, I got a call from a friend who was traveling with her disabled father, who's also a veteran, I might add. And she was expressing how frustrated she was with being in spaces that were not ADA-compliant. And you know, that really made me think about my own experience. I spent about six months without mobility. So I was in a wheelchair, and then I had to spend another about six months with a walker, and probably about two years utilizing a cane. And so it is definitely something that I think is overlooked by, you know, the everyday person. I had to think about -- and this instant, they had to think about -- will the wheelchair fit through the door? Can I get from point A to point B? What if I need to go to the bathroom? Is the bathroom ADA-compliant? You know, those are all things that you think about, and then they make you really not want to go anywhere. And so I think as we continue making decisions as a city, we need to really make sure that we are looking through that lens and making sure that all of our facilities, our entire city is handicapped-accessible, is ADA-compliant because it really, truly is a struggle. It's something that, you know, I dealt with, and I hope I never have to deal with again. But you know, the reality is I might, so. But no matter what, we want to make sure that everyone is able to fully participate in our city. Even if it's our events, we need to make sure that those are ADA-compliant. No matter what it is, we want to make sure that everyone feels welcome and at home here in Tolleson. So that's that.

Council, anyone else want to add anything?

JACKSON: 100 percent..

DAVIS: With that, I will, I guess, proclaim it. Now therefore, I, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis, do hereby proclaim July 2026 as Disability Pride Month in the City of Tolleson. Be it proclaimed.

Next on the agenda is business from the floor. There's no items under that item. H, consent agenda. Items on the consent agenda are of a routine nature and are intended to be acted upon in one motion. I see items 1 through 10. Council, what say you?

GAMEZ: For approval.

DAVIS: Okay. Councilman --

CHAVIRA: Second.

DAVIS: Gamez motions to approve. The second is Councilwoman Chavira. All in favor, say aye.

GAMEZ: Aye.

CHAVIRA: Aye.

DAVIS: All opposed? All right. Motion carries. Regular agenda action items; item 1, adopt or deny Resolution Number 2658 of the Mayor and Council. I'll call up Police Chief Mendoza. Not here?

MEDRANO: Vice Mayor? Oh. He's online? Good.

Sorry, Rudy. I didn't see you on there.

MENDOZA: It's all good. Good evening, Vice Mayor and Council. This is the IGA for a -- What's that? What's that?

DAVIS: You were really, really loud for a minute. But I think we got it under control now.

MENDOZA: Oh, okay. That's really bad considering I have a very projecting voice. So I apologize for that. So this is the IGA for the school resource officer. The school had applied for the grant, and they were not awarded the grant. But we feel very strongly about providing a police officer for security at elementary school campuses. So we would continue doing that. However, that position would be paid for by the city and not reimbursed by the grant.

DAVIS: Okay. Council, any questions, comments?

GAMEZ: Needed. Has to be done. Move for approval.

CHAVIRA: I agree. I think it's something that's needed. We certainly want to support the elementary school and provide that service.

PIERCE: There's actually been a -- he's moved for approval. So get a second. You can continue to talk, but there's been a motion. So if you can get a second you can --

DAVIS: And is there a second then? Second, Councilwoman Laborin?

And then, we can keep discussing, right?

Okay. Sorry. Sorry. Not to ignore your motion.

GAMEZ: No. No problem.

DAVIS: So I was going to say I definitely support us funding an SRO. I think it's essential that the school has that security on campus. I know that they had -- when they applied for their grants, they tier what priorities were. You know, counselors was their top priority, and they did get that funding. I would encourage them to continue seeking additional funding sources, but I have no problem funding this. It shouldn't be either/or. They need both. So yeah, I'm totally good with this.

CHAVIRA: Well, and I believe that they'll apply again. So hopefully, this is a one-time thing with them, and that we support them in the interim.

DAVIS: So that's (indiscernible).

CHAVIRA: Yeah.

DAVIS: (Indiscernible).

CHAVIRA: Yeah.

DAVIS: (Indiscernible). Well, we've had a motion and a second. Did someone else want more discussion?

Question?

MEDRANO: One quick note. Vice Mayor, members of the Council, we will also help pursue additional funding sources beyond the Governor's office, I believe --

Is the Governor's office or Public Safety? What was it that that they applied to? Do we know? Or the education? Yeah.

Oh, yeah. Rudy, I keep forgetting you're on. It's okay. We're going to find other funding sources to pursue as well. That's all. Thank you.

DAVIS: Okay. Yeah. I will always support funding stuff, you know, education, whether it's security, counselors, preschool, whatever it is, after-school programming. I think it's all essential. You know, and our residents deserve the best, so. All right. There was a motion and a second. So all in favor?

ALL: Aye.

DAVIS: All opposed? All right. Motion carried.

All right. Work study and presentations for discussion; Financial Department update.

Let's call up Chief Financial Officer Artz.

ARTZ: Vice Mayor, Council, staff is here tonight just to give you an update on the Finance Department. So the Finance Department provides support functions to all the departments within the city. And then we also, you know, provide the fiscal planning, treasury services, utility billing for our residents, cash receipts for those utility bills, procurement and contract management -- so that's when we purchase anything, it goes through our procurement department -- accounts payable, paying all the bills, payroll, paying the employees, development and monitoring of the annual operating and capital budgets, establishing and monitoring the internal controls -- so those are the processes and procedures that we put in place to make sure that our assets are safeguarded -- and then, financial reporting, which is our annual financial statements or annual comprehensive financial report. So all of these services help provide to ensure that Tolleson is managed in a financially fiscally effective and efficient manner to help support all city services and programs. So we are an internal service department, provide support to all the other departments. But we also do have a forward-facing component of the utility billing and cash receipts where we interact with the residents and businesses.

So our goals for the year, first goal was to help ensure long-term financial stability of the city. And we do that through a number of different ways. Number one, developing a structurally balanced budget that incorporates ongoing revenues that are in excess of ongoing expenditures; so making sure that the revenues coming in are always more than the ongoing expenditures that we have. Also, programing sufficient reserves to cover operating costs and unforeseen emergencies, making sure that we have enough fund balance and enough contingency fund to handle all of those emergencies that may come up. Completing the annual comprehensive financial report; getting an audit done by our auditors with a clean audit opinion is very important when we go out to borrow money and just to help ensure the confidence of the public of our financial records. And then, reducing the amount of the pension fund unfunded liability. So how this aligns

with Council goals, financial stability of the city, you know, indirectly supports and aligns to all the Council priorities by supporting all of the departments in the city. Some of the metrics for it, so the '25/'26 budget was adopted and was structurally balanced. The city met projections for that. The '26/'27 budget has now been completed. And that was also structurally balanced. The budget programed sufficient revenues to meet our minimum fund balance requirements. The 2025 financial report has been completed. The city did receive an unqualified or clean audit opinion. The fund balance in the general fund was a little over \$69 million and \$118 million in total. And then finally, the funding status for police and fire PSPRS is 100.5% funded and 99.6% funded, respectively.

So feeling like we've done a good job on the financial stability of the city, making sure that our budget's been balanced, that everything's been recorded properly, and that we're able to reduce our unfunded liability.

The second goal was to diversify and enhance city revenues. So we've been able to diversify our investments and extend the maturities on the investments. That has helped us to increase the amount of dividend income that we have coming in. We've also been working with assisting the Development Services Department with the financial analysis for the grocery store development agreement. So we've been assisting Jason and his team with the financial analysis and trying to work through the numbers with the developers there. And then, identifying opportunities for sales tax audits to help ensure compliance, so this is just -- it's not always about getting an assessment on the audit. We're trying to make sure that we're educating the businesses out there so that they continue to pay and pay properly going forward. So that's part of our sales tax audit program. And this aligns with Council's priority on economic development to sustain efforts to grow the local economy, both to strengthen sales tax revenue and expand the range of amenities and services available to the residents. The metrics; investment income for fiscal year '25 totaled \$5.2 million, and that's an increase of over \$4.9 million just from 2022. So over the past three years, we've been able to generate an additional \$13 million of investment income by expanding some of those maturities

and taking advantage of the higher interest rates. So that's all been available revenue to the city without having to charge user fees or taxes. It's just income that we're getting from our investments. 37 audits have been completed, and over \$1.2 million has been collected on our audit assessments. And then, the development agreement for the grocery store has been drafted. And Jason's working with the developer on that. And we'll continue to assist with the financial analysis on that.

Final goal for 2026, enhance the reliability of our financial systems. So we did recently implement a new utility billing module. This allows the residents to actually go online, pay their bill, actually view their account. Under the previous system that we had, the residents couldn't go on and look at what their consumption was or look at their bill. They could only go on and make a payment. So this portal is much more user-friendly and allows the residents to go on in real time and see what their water bill is and what they owe. We also implemented a new procurement and contract management module to help broaden outreach. So any time we can get more vendors to submit on our bids or on our formal processes, more competition means that we generally get a better price. So that's what we're always trying to do to make sure that we're getting good competition every time we go out and buy something, and that we're getting the best price available.

And then, we worked with the Employee Resources Department to implement a new payroll system. That was completed back in February. Again, all of these goals align to just the priorities of Council and all the other departments. The metrics; the Utility Billing module is live as of November 25th. OpenGov is our procurement module. That went live in December '25. And UKG, the new payroll system went live in February '26. And for next year, our major goal is completion of the permanent base adjustment, so preparing the summary and detailed analysis for that document for inclusion in the publicity pamphlet, determining the amount for the base adjustment, and then completing all the required financial documents for inclusion in the election materials. So to date, we have completed the summary and detailed data. That's been prepared, submitted to the Auditor General's Office, and approved by the Auditor General. So

that is now able to be included in the publicity pamphlet. So the next step on this is hold the election in the fall of 2026, and then proceed with the directive from the Tolleson voters. So those are the goals and kind of the summary of the Finance Department over the past years. And staff is available if you have any questions for the Finance Department.

DAVIS: Keep up the great work. Your department (Indiscernible) breaking it down and making it easy to digest (indiscernible).

ARTZ: Thank you.

GAMEZ: Awesome job. Absolutely nothing but consistency from your office. And again, we appreciate it. And I appreciate it. Thank you. Good job.

CHAVIRA: Mr. Artz, we're very fortunate to have you do a wonderful job. We see that our earning capacity on our own interest, I mean, that's tremendous in and of itself. And we have a healthy budget that allows us to do really great things for the city and for the people who live here. And that makes our jobs a whole lot easier. And so it's appreciated. Thank you.

GAMEZ: Yes, sir.

ARTZ: Thank you, Vice Mayor.

DAVIS: Next is Mayor and City Manager's report of current events. Before I go to item 1, I just wanted to give a brief update. Last week, I went to National League of Cities Summer Board and Leadership Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Let me start with, I'm glad that I live in Tolleson, Arizona. I'm going to start with that. But it was -- it's always an honor to represent Tolleson in so many different ways. Through the National League of Cities, I am part of the Human Development Committee, the REAL Committee, which is different than the fake committee. Just kidding. The REAL Committee is the Race, Equality, and Leadership Committee. The Small Cities Council, the Hispanic Elected Local Officials, the Young Municipal Leaders, LGBTQLO, I'm on the board of HELO, which is Hispanic Elected Local Officials. Anyway, there's a bunch of them. But I serve on all these different committees because I think it is really important that Tolleson has a seat at the table. And so at this summer leadership meeting, we were helping to form -- so

the National League of Cities is -- their purpose is to be a federal advocacy organization. So they are taking, you know, the direction of all of the cities around the country. And that is what they're pushing forward to our Congress members and senators and even the White House to try to get Washington to listen to the cities, which they don't do. So it's really important that we have a voice and that, you know, we are heard in those meetings. I will say that Louisville is a reminder of a very not-so-amazing past in our country's history. It's obvious where the racial lines were and where they were divided. It's just a lot of poverty. But even in that, you know -- even with that, they are still, you know, trying to move forward and they're trying to do some great things. I had the chance to go to a Goodwill workforce center. It was just an amazing campus. It was 12,000 square feet. A bunch of different organizations came together, and their main focus is career readiness, but for youth, so up to age 24. They do other services for you know, all the other ages as well. But it was just great to see the magic that can happen when collaboration takes place. And so it was definitely -- it gave me lots of ideas to bring home. So that was kind of the highlight of my trip.

Every time I travel to another city for a conference or travel with other organizations, I am reminded at how amazing our staff is here in Tolleson. And so I just want to thank you guys for the amazing work that you do. I know that sometimes -- all the time -- many of you wear lots of hats. And you take on so many roles. And you know, it sometimes, I think, goes unnoticed. But I want you to know that your hard work is much appreciated by this Council. You guys are amazing. You're rock stars. And we are so lucky to have you guys. So I just wanted to thank you guys publicly for all of the hard work that you do. Because every time I go to a different city, you know, I encounter some of the other city staff and what they've got going on. And I'm just reminded of how awesome Tolleson is. So thank you, guys.

MEDRANO: Vice Mayor, that means the world to us.

Council, that means the world to us. And I can speak on behalf of my entire team as we know how good we have it. And you are by far the best council I've ever served, but certainly in the State of Arizona. And I will take on any in the entire country. So we're

the lucky ones. Thank you very much. Nothing happens without you.

DAVIS: That even goes to our city attorney. I sat in a session before. So thank you for not being a crazy city attorney.

MEDRANO: That depends on who you're talking to, bro.

DAVIS: One of the real committee sessions that I sat on -- not at this particular meeting, at another meeting -- they talked about city attorneys and just how political they can be. And they cause a lot of issues. And it made me really happy that our firm is even and hard-working and shows up for the people of Tolleson, not for themselves. So we appreciate you as well.

All right, let's move on with the agenda. So just a reminder that our City Council meetings scheduled for July 28th and August 11th will be canceled for summer recess. And we will have a special City Council meeting held on August 10th at 4:30 via Zoom to meet for the primary election canvass deadline.

All right. Any other updates? Okay. All right. Then that means that we will convene into an executive session. Before we do that, we'll ask everyone who's not going to be a part of that to -- you can leave at this time. The only other item on the agenda is for us to adjourn.

And are we going to take a break, or are we ready --

MEDRANO: Take a break. Take a break.

DAVIS: All right. So we'll take a short recess.

APPROVED:

JUAN F. RODRIGUEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CRYSTAL ZAMORA, CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOLLESON, ARIZONA, HELD ON JULY 14, 2026. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE MEETING WAS DULY CALLED AND HELD, AND THAT A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

CRYSTAL ZAMORA, CITY CLERK